Free Consultations Available for Your Patients with Spontaneous Premature Ovarian Failure

Dear Doctor:

The Intramural Research Program of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland is sponsoring a clinical research program whose goal is to develop improved treatments for young women with spontaneous premature ovarian failure.

Our multidisciplinary research team is available to assist you in a consultative role. You will receive a comprehensive report of our evaluation and you will continue to direct the management of your patient. Our goal is to assist in providing good care to individual women with spontaneous premature ovarian failure while at the same time advancing scientific understanding of their condition. A comprehensive clinical and laboratory evaluation will be provided free of charge. This evaluation is conducted under study 91-CH-127, "Ovarian Follicle Function in Patients with Premature Ovarian Failure."

As clinicians in a research facility we are allotted adequate time to see these patients. After our evaluation we meet with each patient and her partner for a 2-hour session to explain normal ovarian physiology and to address the many important issues facing young women with spontaneous premature ovarian failure.

We also have ongoing research seeking to develop a treatment to restore fertility to women with autoimmune ovarian failure and ongoing research seeking to determine the ideal form of hormone replacement. There is no cost or obligation to participate in these additional research studies. In some cases travel funds are available for participants.

Eligible patients will have had at least 4 months of amenorrhea prior to age 40 and clearly elevated gonadotropins on two separate occasions at least one month apart. Patients with iatrogenic ovarian failure or a known karyotypic abnormality are not eligible.

We have enclosed a copy of an information sheet that you may wish to provide to your patients. For more information please contact our unit by calling toll free 1-877-206-0911.

Sincerely,

Lawrence M. Nelson, MD

Lary Nelson

Head, Gynecologic Endocrinology Unit

DEB/NICHD, National Institutes of Health